

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 22131 281723Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2586

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 22131

NODIS

FOR COUNSELOR, S AND S/S ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO SAUVAGNARGUES

REF: PARIS 22054

1. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION THURSDAY AFTERNOON, SAUVAGNARGUES CABINET DIRECTOR ULRICH EXPANDED ON WHAT HE TOLD ME THIS MORNING (REFTEL) AS FOLLOWS:

2. SAUVAGNARGUES HAS DISCUSSED SUBJECT INVITATION WITH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING WHO IS IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT THAT MEETING SHOULD BE HELD. PRESIDENT AGREES THAT SUBJECT OF MEETING MERITS HIGHEST PRIORITY. HOWEVER, BOTH GISCARD AND SAUVAGNARGUES HAVE STRONG RESERVATIONS ABOUT PROPOSAL TO HOLD MEETING AT CAMP DAVID. THEY FEEL IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, TO KEEP MEETING SECRET. WHEN WORD LEAKS OUT, FRANCE'S EC-9 PARTNERS WILL BE BOTH INQUISITIVE AND WORRIED ABOUT BEING LEFT OUT OF 18-HOUR LONG DISCUSSION. IN THIS CONTEXT, ULRICH SAID GISCARD ESPECIALLY WORRIED ABOUT ITALIANS WHO ARE ALREADY INCENSED ABOUT THEIR NON-INVITATION TO THE MONETARY SUMMIT. IN VIEW OF THESE CONCERNS, GISCARD AND SAUVAGNARGUES FEEL MEETING SHOULD BE HELD IN NEW YORK WHERE PRESENCE OF FOR-
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PAGE 02 PARIS 22131 281723Z

EIGN MINISTERS AT UN SPECIAL SESSION, AND THEIR GETTING

TOGETHER, WOULD APPEAR COMPLETELY NATURAL, AND WOULD PROBABLY NOT PROVOKE ANGRY INQUIRIES FROM ITALIANS AND OTHERS.

3. ULRICH STRESSED THAT PROBLEM DESCRIBED ABOVE IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN PROBLEM OF FINDING ALTERNATE SPEAKING TIME FOR SAUVAGNARGUES WHICH IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER CAN BE WORKED OUT.
GAMMON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INVITATIONS, CAT-C, NO TEXT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS22131
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840125-2592, N750003-0535
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975089/aaaaahnq.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 75 PARIS 22054
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INVITATION TO SAUVAGNARGUES
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006